established in 1899.

241 664 In agricultural politics the most important organization is Maataloustuottajain Keskusliitto [Central Union for Farmers] with all its various subdivisions, the aim of which is to convince the Diet and the Government to adopt economic measures favorable to the farming population. [471] As individual enterprise is traditionally respected in Finland, the State does not interfere much with agricultural production, however. The improvement of farming and the general living conditions in the countryside depend 241 575 largely upon individual initiative. To this end the farmers have established several societies; especially noticeable work in raising living standards and improving working conditions has been done by such women's organizations as the